

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W

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R 050900Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8499

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 0745

PARIS FOR USDEL JEC

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, FI, VN

SUBJ: GOF AID TO REFUGEES IN INDOCHINA

1. GOF APRIL 3 DECIDED TO GRANT FINNMARK 1.5 MILLION (ABOUT DOLS 430,000) FOR AID TO REFUGEES IN INDOCHINA. THIS DECISION TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO APPEAL FROM UNSYG WALDHEIM AND ICRC. AID WILL BE DISTRIBUTED EQUALLY IN THREE PARTS TO UNHRC, UNICEF, AND NEW JOINT STAFF OF LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES AND ICRC. THERE ARE NO QUOTAS OR RESTRICTIONS ATTACHED TO FINNISH AID.

2. PRG HAS ALSO MADE REQUEST FOR AID TO REFUGEES TO GOF THROUGH ICRC. WE ARE TOLD THAT FACT OF SUCH REQUEST AND THE CHANNELING OF IT THROUGH ICRC MADE IT EASIER FOR GOF TO MAKE APRIL 3 DECISION, SINCE NORMAL VOCIFEROUS LEFTIST
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DEMANDS THAT ALL OR MAJOR PORTION OF ANY GOF AID GO TO

PRG ABSENT IN THIS CASE.

3. FINNISH RC STARTING COLLECTION CAMPAIGN FOR INDOCHINA REFUGEE AID. FOR TIME BEING RC WILL JUST COLLECT FUNDS WHILE AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS FROM JOINT STAFF IN GENEVA ON WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH IT. FINNISH RC DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL GUNNAR ROSEN, WHO HAS MADE SEVERAL TRIPS TO RVN, TOLD POLOFF THAT IT'S HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT FOR TIME BEING ACTUAL DISPENSING OF AID TO REFUGEES WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONCENTRATED ON ACTIVITIES IN SAIGON CONTROLLED AREAS, BECAUSE PRG DOES NOT HAVE NECESSARY MACHINERY FOR AID DISTRIBUTION TO REFUGEES IN RECENTLY OVERRUN AREAS IN SOUTH VIET NAM. ROSEN SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN INFORMED FROM GENEVA THAT PRG CLAIMING THAT BECAUSE THEY HAD NEVER IN THEIR WILDEST DREAMS EXPECTED TO TAKE OVER AS MUCH TERRITORY AS QUICKLY AS THEY HAD, THEY WERE HOPELESSLY UNPREPARED TO TAKE CARE OF THE POPULATION REMAINING IN THE AREA. MR. ROSEN ALSO SAID THAT IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT AT LEAST INITIALLY REFUGEE AID FUNDS WILL BE USED FOR GRAIN PURCHASES IN THE MEKONG AREA AND CAMBODIA. HE SAID THAT THERE ARE AT THE PRESENT TIME CONVOYS FROM SAIGON TO DP CAMPS AND OTHER PLACES, AS WELL AS AIR DROPS TO ISOLATED AREAS. MR. ROSEN CLAIMED THAT, ACCORDING TO GENEVA, PRESENT ESTIMATES OF NUMBERS OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN INDOCHINA GO AS HIGH AS 10 MILLION.

4. AMBASSADOR TOOK UP VIET NAM AND PRG QUESTION WITH MFA ACTING POLITICAL SECTION CHIEF TORNUGG ON MARCH 26 AND MFA SECRETARY GENERAL TUOVINEN APRIL 3. THE DISCUSSIONS REINFORCED GOF'S UNDERSTANDING OF GREAT IMPORTANCE USG ATTACHES TO THESE QUESTIONS. WHETHER OR NOT ALL THE PREVIOUS REPRESENTATIONS THAT EMBASSY HAS MADE ON THESE MATTERS AND THE REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS HAD ANY DECISIVE EFFECT ON MOST RECENT GOF DECISION, IT IS IN ANY CASE HEARTENING TO NOTE THAT GOF IN THIS CASE DID NOT SINGLE OUT PRG FOR ANY SPECIAL SUPPORT.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Reason:
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